

PATENT APPLICATION

N THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Gautam Bhandari and

Thomas H. Baum

Group Art Unit: 1763

U.S. Application No.: 09/012,679

Examiner: Filed: Maya Bennett

Title: Tantalum Amide Precursors for Deposition of Tantalum Nitride on a Substrate

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. One copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- ☑ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the U.S. filing date OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No certification or fee is required.
- □ 2. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.
 - ☐ a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in

a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1).

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- □ c. Attached is our check no. ___ in the amount of \$220 in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p). Please credit or debit Deposit Account No. 08-3284 as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information. Two duplicate copies of this paper are attached.
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 \square 4. (other):

Respectfully submitted,

Oliver A. Zitzmann Registration No. 38,691

Agent for Applicant

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